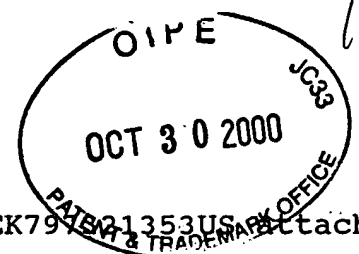


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BOX AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231



Mailed OCTOBER 30, 2000 by Express Mail
Certificate of Express mailing article # EK797821353US Patent Attached

Re: Patent Application of Brad A. Armstrong
Serial No.: 09/167,314
Filed: 10/06/98

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TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

Title:
COMPUTER MOUSE WITH ENHANCED CONTROL BUTTON(S) (as amended)

Examiner: Nguyen, Kevin M.

GAU: 2774

Please
enter 11/15/00
KAN

IN RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION DATE MAILED 08/30/00

Dear Sir:

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 08/30/00, paper number 8, and a telephone interview on Oct. 4, 2000 regarding the Office Action on my above specified patent application.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On Wednesday, October 4, 2000, at approximately 10:30am Eastern time, Patent Examiner Kevin M. Nguyen placed a return phone call to Applicant Pro Se, Brad Armstrong, regarding U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/167,314, and a Telephone Interview took place.

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OVERALL SUMMARY

In the Telephone Interview, claims 1-15 were not discussed, claim 16 was not agreed to and the Examiner requested Applicant to submit his arguments in writing concerning claim 16 so that the Examiner could further think about the arguments, claims 18, 20 and 22 were agreed to as allowable by the Examiner.

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

Applicant and Examiner first reviewed Point 10 made on page 4 of the Examiners Office Action mailed 8/30/00, wherein the Examiner writes,

"Applicant argues... 'the present invention completely eliminates the need for cursor movement.' and 'the improvements are without moving or steering a cursor.' These arguments are not persuasive because these arguments are not putted in the claimed limitations of the present invention."

Applicant and Examiner then reviewed independent claims 20 and 22. Applicant pointed out the explicit language contained within claims 20 and 22 where the claims read "regardless of the cursor position on the display,".

Applicant and Examiner then reviewed independent claim 18 (once amended). Applicant pointed out the explicit language contained within claim 18, where the claim reads "without a requirement of the pointer being located on the software back button displayed on the monitor."

Applicant and Examiner reviewed patent number 5,854,624 and Applicant pointed out to the Examiner that the device of patent 5,854,624 was not a "computer mouse" which the present invention is limited to in the preamble of the claims 18, 20 and 22.

Examiner Nguyen agreed with Applicant that because of the above observations, claims 18 (once amended), 20 and 22 are allowable subject matter.

Agreement was not reached between Applicant and Examiner regarding independent claim 16. Applicant made verbal arguments

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for the allowability of claim 16 but the Examiner requested Applicant to submit those arguments in writing so that the Examiner could have time to think about the correctness of the argument.

Applicant thanked the Examiner for his time and promised to send a Telephone Interview Summary and the written arguments as requested by the Examiner.

END OF TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

For at least the reasons which are listed below, would the Examiner please amend my application as below requested. After amending the claims, please reexamine the application and amended claims in view of the herein remarks favoring allowance, finding all claims allowable. Thank you.

The entering of the amendments makes the application in complete condition for allowance.

The below amendments to the claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 15, and 16 only clarify the allowable nature of the claims with respect to the allowable material agreed by the Examiner in the telephone interview as being present in claims 18 (once amended), 20 and 22.

The entering of the amendments to claims 1, 3, 5, 12, 15, and 16 after final can be entered because the amendments simply state in a more clear manner the existing claim limitations, and place the application in condition for allowance.

Thus, the entering of this amendment is well within the guidelines for advancing the application toward patent issuance.

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